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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 11 totaled an estimated 16.3 billion ton-miles, 3.6 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

The cumulative volume for the first 28 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 483.7 billion ton-miles, 1.4 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 11 totaled 388,569 cars, 3.4 percent above 1980, but 4.1 percent lower than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 26.9 percent in the East and 1.5 percent in the South, but down 7.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, coal loadings showed an increase of 29,851 cars, or 42.3 percent, metallic ores were up 8,470 cars, or 27.7 percent, and loadings of coke registered at 75.1 percent increase. Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the holiday week ended July 4 totaled 33,098 cars, up 24.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 58,592 trailers and/or containers, up 20.8 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 27 weeks of the year was 876,548 cars, 0.1 percent higher than last year, but 1,583,732 trailers and/or containers, down 0.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/11/81:

	Loadings in Week ended July 11, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980			Change from Preceding Week		
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent	
Grain	20,132	D	16,265	44.7	D	3,288	14.0	
Other farm products	3,705	D	970	20.7	I	568	18.1	
Metallic ores	39,068	I	8,470	27.7	I	2,248	6.1	
Coal	100,464	I	29,851	42.3	D	8,986	8.2	
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,185	D	1,585	10.7	I	517	4.1	
Nonmetallic minerals	15,094	D	1,917	11.3	I	539	3.7	
Grain mill products	12,313	D	3,155	20.4	I	98	0.8	
Food and kindred products	13,789	D	3,064	18.2	I	60	0.4	
Primary forest products	16,709	D	2,285	12.0	I	1,788	12.0	
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,193	D	1,150	15.7	D	644	9.4	
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,095	D	900	5.3	D	2,272	12.4	
Chemicals and allied products	24,113	D	91	0.4	I	226	10.0	
Petroleum products	4,936	D	567	10.3	I	431	9.6	
Stone, clay and glass products	13,843	D	894	6.1	I	651	4.9	
Coke	6,780	I	2,909	75.1	I	351	5.5	
Metals and products	13,858	I	1,656	13.6	D	1,103	7.4	
Motor vehicles and equipment	13,206	I	628	5.0	D	3,585	21.4	
Waste and scrap materials	10,395	I	1,281	14.1	D	64	0.6	
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,852	D	831	9.6	D	1,637	17.3	
All other carloads	36,659	I	1,699	4.9	D	2,606	6.6	
LCL traffic	180	I	31	20.8	I	6	3.5	
Total Cars Loaded	388,569	I	12,851	3.4	D	16,702	4.1	
Corresponding week of 1980	375,718							

	1981	1980	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (28 weeks)	11,562,808	12,204,123	D	5.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
27 Weeks cumulative	467.4	474.6	D	1.5
Week ended July 11	16.3	15.8	I	3.6
28 Weeks cumulative	483.7	490.4	D	1.4

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